

DATE: December 3, 1999

TO: Regional Engineers
Regional Associate Delivery Engineers
Regional Construction Engineers
Resident/Project Engineers/TSC Managers

FROM: C. Thomas Maki
Chief Operations Officer

Gary D. Taylor
Chief Engineer/Deputy Director
Bureau of Highway Technical Services

SUBJECT: Bureau of Highway Instructional Memorandum 1999-20
Cantilever Sign Supports

At the September 2, 1999, Engineering Operations Committee (EOC) meeting, it was decided to place a moratorium on the use of Type G and Type H cantilever sign supports effective immediately. Installation of these types of sign supports may occur under existing contracts if the foundation has already been placed, otherwise an appropriate contract adjustment must be made. This moratorium was instituted because of continued installation and maintenance issues.

It was also decided to limit the use of other types of cantilever sign supports to highway locations only where absolutely necessary. An overhead support or breakaway ground mount sign support must be used in all cases that are acceptable sites before considering the use of a cantilever sign support. Breakaway ground mount sign supports must be used when acceptable; however, if it has been determined that an overhead installation is required, the following order of consideration for support should be made:

1. Bridge Mount - If there is a structure available in the approximate location for sign placement.
2. Truss Bridge - For more than one sign per location.
3. Cantilever Support (Type C, Type D, or Type E) - For single sign locations.

It is recognized that installing an overhead truss bridge sign support is more expensive than a cantilever sign support.

Our biennial inspection program will continue until all the cantilever sign supports are no longer in service. If a Type G or Type H cantilever is replaced due to the biennial inspection, the cantilever in question must be replaced with a ground mount, a bridge mount, a truss bridge,

or a cantilever support (Type C, Type D, or Type E), whichever case applies appropriately to the sign location.

In the unique case that a Type G or Type H cantilever sign support is the only viable solution, a request for an exception must be made to the EOC. It should be recognized that large diameter anchor bolts may not be readily available for infrequent use of Type G and Type H cantilever sign supports and that adequate lead time must be provided for material delivery.

Maki	C. Thomas
Chief Operations Officer	Gary D. Taylor, Chief Engineer/Deputy Director Bureau of Highway Technical Services

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